



**Dorchester Skipjack Committee**  
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January 18, 2011

The Skipjack *Nathan's* designer, Harold Ruark, seated, his wife, Eleanor, right, and daughter, Connie, were among the guests attending the Dorchester Skipjack Committee's holiday luncheon for volunteers.



## **Skipjack *Nathan* Thanks Her Volunteers**

The Dorchester Skipjack Committee recently held a holiday luncheon at Cambridge Yacht Club to thank its volunteers for a successful 2010 sailing season. The all-volunteer nonprofit organization owns, operates and maintains the Skipjack *Nathan of Dorchester*, which sails out of Cambridge.

Guests included sail crew, docents and trainees as well as board members and administrative volunteers, spouses and friends. Melvin Hickman, Gerry Horney and designer Harold Ruark were present, representing the volunteers who originally built the *Nathan* in 1994.

Dorchester Skipjack Committee President Ed Nabb thanked the group for the countless hours each volunteer gives to the *Nathan* and to the organization. Providing some statistics for the previous season, he noted that there had been forty individuals who had served on board during the past year as captains, crew, docents or trainees. Together they contributed a total of 695 crew days on the boat in 2010, welcoming 2037 passengers aboard.

In addition to the sail fares, the organization accepts and encourages donations toward the skipjack's extensive maintenance needs. However, several donations were made last year specifically

with the request that they be used to recognize the exceptional service the donors had received from the crew. Those donations were used to help fund the holiday luncheon for the volunteers.



From right, Gerry Horney and Melvin Hickman, two of the original builders of the *Nathan*, and their wives, Kitten Hickman and Katherine Horney.



Dorchester Skipjack Committee President Ed Nabb, left, and Vice President Bud Marseilles, right, presented Cyndy Carrington Miller with a miniature Skipjack *Nathan*-in-a-bottle, created by Marseilles, for her service to the organization.

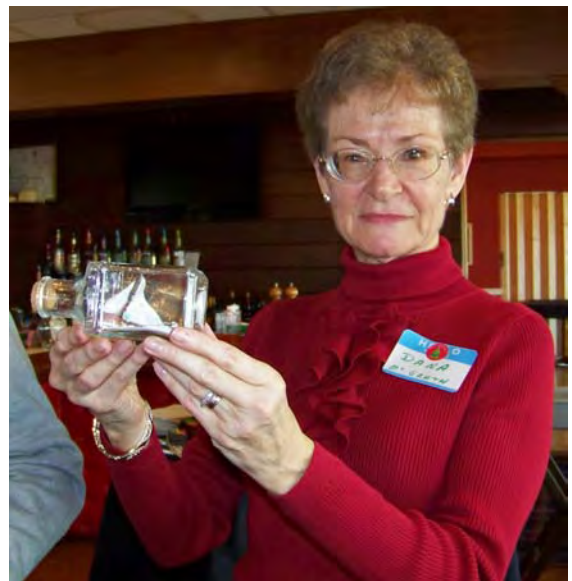
Besides being an off-season opportunity for the *Nathan* family to get together, the luncheon also served as an occasion to recognize individuals who had distinguished themselves through their dedicated efforts for the organization.

Dana McGrath and Cyndy Carrington Miller were presented with miniature Skipjack *Nathans*-in-a-bottle, created by Vice President Bud Marseilles. McGrath has been volunteering with the Dorchester Skipjack Committee since 1998. She served as Crew Scheduler and then Secretary until 2008, when she assumed her current position as Treasurer. McGrath also handles much of the behind-the-scenes charter scheduling and reservation coordination for the boat and its volunteers.

Miller volunteers in marketing and public relations for the organization. Joining as sail crew in 2002, she now serves as one of the mates on the *Nathan* in addition to maintaining the crew schedule and communications.

Many of the volunteers are like McGrath and Miller in performing a variety of tasks for the small organization. The Dorchester Skipjack Committee welcomes new volunteers in all areas, including crew, captains, maintenance and administration. A volunteer orientation session will be held this spring, providing an introduction to the organization's activities to those interested in joining the group.

*For more information, to charter the boat or to volunteer, contact the Dorchester Skipjack Committee at 410-228-7141 or visit its website, [www.skipjack-nathan.org](http://www.skipjack-nathan.org).*



Treasurer Dana McGrath displays her gift of appreciation from the Dorchester Skipjack Committee.

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